

Vice Mayor Kenneth Watts called a regular monthly meeting of the Amherst Town Council to order on August 12, 2015 at 7:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers of the Town Hall at 174 S. Main Street. Council members Kenneth Bumgarner, Andr  Higginbotham, Rachel Thompson and Kenneth Watts were present. Mayor J. Paul Kilgore, Jr. and Councilor Mike Mozingo were absent. Town Manager Jack Hobbs, Town Attorney Tom Berry, Police Chief Robert Kimbrel, Director of Public Utilities Tom Fore and Office Manager Colan Davis were present.

Mrs. Rachel Carton came forward to offer a prayer as a citizen comment.

Ms. Marceline Lotman, 117 Woodland Drive, came forward to express her dissatisfaction with the paving work that recently done by VDOT in her neighborhood. After Ms. Lotman was reminded that VDOT is responsible for maintaining the public streets in the Town, the Town Manager was asked to relay Ms. Lottman's comments to VDOT.

Mrs. Thompson made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Bumgarner and passed 4-0 to support a Christmas Parade sponsored by the Amherst County Lions Club that would "form up" on N. Main Street and proceed through the traffic circle and along S. Main Street to the library via the following:

- a) The Town staff would apply for the required VDOT permit for the annual Ray Puckett Lions Club Christmas Parade to be held on Friday, December 4, 2015 starting at about 6:30 P.M.,
- b) Using not less than five other law enforcement officers funded by the Amherst County Lions Club, provide traffic control for the event by Town police and public works employees, and
- c) Provide the usual nominal support such as posting entry forms and parade lineup information on the Town's web site and installing a banner provided by the Amherst County Lions Club across S. Main Street to advertise the event.

Messrs. Bumgarner, Higginbotham, Thompson and Watts voted "Aye" and Mr. Mozingo was absent.

Town Engineer Herb White came forward to give a report on his USDA Sewer Preliminary Engineering Report Project work and an unusual procurement procedure for services involving robotic video equipment offered by RedZone. The need for the a significant video/evaluation effort to ascertain which pipes have reasonable remaining service life, which pipes should be replaced, which pipes should be rehabilitated (either by lining or point repair), and which manholes should be rehabilitated or replaced with the USDA funding was reviewed. It was understood that:

- a) RedZone would be a subcontractor for WW Associates and this evaluation work would be an addendum to the WW Associates contract approved on April 8, 2015. This new arrangement would be in lieu of the Town contracting with a third party "low bid" contractor for cleaning and video services as contemplated earlier. There would be no pipe cleaning under this new concept.
- b) 47,000 LF of pipe and 280 manholes would be videoed and evaluated/scored under this change.
- c) For the upcoming cost-share conversations with Sweet Briar College, the Town would be provided with the quantities of work involving the interceptor and the associated cost breakouts for both the inspection/evaluation addition as well as the other consulting and construction work at the earliest.
- d) Approvable Preliminary Engineering Report and Environmental Review documents would be delivered within 150 days of the signing of the WW Associates contract extension.

Mr. Bumgarner made a motion that was seconded by Mrs. Thompson and passed 4-0 to approve the contract extension as proposed. Messrs. Bumgarner, Higginbotham, Thompson and Watts voted "Aye" and Mr. Mozingo was absent.

Mrs. Thompson made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Watts and passed 4-0 to approve the minutes from the July 8, 2015 meeting. Messrs. Bumgarner, Higginbotham, Thompson and Watts voted "Aye" and Mr. Mozingo was absent.

It was reported that the Planning Commission has asked that the Town Council request assistance from VDOT on studying the creation of an “urban development area” and petition VDOT to install sidewalk along U.S. Route 60 east of the traffic circle. Mrs. Thompson made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Watts and passed 4-0 to authorize the Town Manager to apply for a VDOT planning assistance “grant” that would fund the study, identification and development of an Urban Development Area. Messrs. Bumgarner, Higginbotham, Thompson and Watts voted “Aye” and Mr. Mozingo was absent.

Mrs. Thompson made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Watts and passed 4-0 to authorize the Town Manager to petition VDOT to install sidewalk along U.S. Route 60 east of the traffic circle. Messrs. Bumgarner, Higginbotham, Thompson and Watts voted “Aye” and Mr. Mozingo was absent.

Mr. Tom Fore gave a report on his work to address recent water quality problems.

The Police Chief was recognized for his work on two recently completed police policies.

After the Council discussed the Town’s policy concerning utility disconnections, the Finance Committee was asked to recommend improvements to Town procedures so that customers can be better warned of upcoming service suspensions. A recent reconnection fee for Ms. Carrie Smith (168 First Street) was discussed but a refund/waiver was not approved.

The Town Manager gave an oral status report on various projects.

Mrs. Thompson made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Watts and passed 3-1 to accept the landscape proposal from the Village Garden Club for the preparation and planting of the islands in front of the Town Hall building with an estimated expense of \$500. Messrs. Bumgarner, Thompson and Watts voted “Aye”; Mr. Higginbotham voted “Nay” and Mr. Mozingo was absent.

The Councilors discussed the Springsted Pay and Class Study project.

Mr. Bumgarner made a motion that was seconded by Mrs. Thompson and passed 4-0 that the Town Council convene in closed session for consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members or consultants pertaining to actual or probable litigation, where such consultation or briefing in open meeting would adversely affect the negotiating or litigating posture of the public body; and consultation with legal counsel employed or retained by a public body regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel per the exemption at §2.2-3711A.7 of the Code of Virginia. Messrs. Bumgarner, Higginbotham, Thompson and Watts voted “Aye”. Mr. Mozingo was absent.

Mr. Bumgarner made a motion that was seconded by Mrs. Thompson and approved 4-0 by a roll call vote that the Councilors certify that to the best of each councilors’ knowledge that (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under Title 2.2, Chapter 37 and §15.2-2907 of the Code of Virginia and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed session was convened were heard, discussed or considered in the session. Messrs. Bumgarner, Higginbotham, Thompson and Watts voted “Aye” by the roll call method. Mr. Mozingo was absent.

There being no further business, at 9:17 P.M. Mrs. Thompson made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Watts and approved 4-0 to adjourn the meeting until the August 26 at 7:00 P.M. for a worksession on the Springsted pay and classification study. Messrs. Bumgarner, Higginbotham, Mozingo, Thompson and Watts voted “Aye”. Mr. Mozingo was absent.

Kenneth Watts, Vice Mayor

Attest: _____
Clerk of Council